

## Mayor Offers Empty Hope to War Cripples

Wounded Will Not Be "Neglected" When 27th Goes on Parade, He Assures

Seats All Are Pre-empted

Hospitality of Avenue Dwellers Futile When Curb Is Commandeered

Fifth Avenue has placed itself literally at the disposal of the wounded soldiers in New York hospitals, who, denied seats in the Hyman-Hearst reviewing stand, are seeking means to view their marching Buddies of the 27th Division.

That is, the portions of the avenue that have not been commandeered by the Mayor's Committee of Welcome to Homecoming Troops will be turned over to the wounded men by private individuals. It was generally admitted yesterday, however, that the business men who are giving up all available window space to the wounded men will not be able to care for all the 8,000 convalescing soldiers who hope to view the parade.

With the big reviewing stand stretching from Fifty-ninth Street to 110th on the west side of Fifth Avenue and the Mayor's committee preparing to rope off the east side of the avenue between those streets in order to dole out standing room by ticket only, not much desirable reviewing space remains to be distributed by business men or householders.

### Promises Fail to Convince

Protests at the failure of the Hyman-Hearst body's failure to provide seats for the wounded men yesterday brought forth a blanket announcement from representatives of that committee that "the wounded men would not be neglected." It even was said that such could not be given seats in stores or on the tops of buses would be seated in the grandstand. But since provision for distribution of the tickets to the reviewing stand already has been completed and no seats remain for the 6,000 wounded men, army officers agreed that the last promise of the Mayor's committee must have been intended as a pleasant fiction only.

The daily statement of the Mayor's committee last night contained this paragraph:

"It is not possible to provide accommodations for all of the convalescents inside of buildings or in the fleet of stages that will be parked at the Fifth Avenue street crossings, provision will be made for them in the reviewing stand. The committee will see that none of the men is neglected."

Whoever connected with the committee could be found who could tell how the reviewing stand could be made to accommodate these men since no tickets have been reserved for them.

### How Tickets Were Allotted

The 75,000 tickets for the reviewing stand had been allotted as follows long before any suggestion had been made by the Mayor's committee that wounded men be given seats:

Two tickets to each soldier in 27th Division..... 52,000  
To members Mayor's Committee (undecided)..... 3,000 or 6,000  
To relatives of dead and wounded of 27th Division..... 6,000  
To city officials, newspaper officials, all clergies, famous politicians and their friends (approximately)..... 15,000

These figures are necessarily tentative, since the Mayor's ticket experts have refused to announce the number of tickets to be given out to any but the necessary two each to the soldiers in the division. The question of giving tickets to members of the committee itself presents difficulties that have not been openly discussed.

Theoretically, the Mayor's Committee of Welcome to Homecoming Troops is composed of 3,000 members. As a matter of fact, however, it has so dwindled in size through resignation of those who refused to serve with William Randolph Hearst, that even the secretary of the committee is in doubt as to its numerical strength.

It is not known whether two tickets or one will be allowed to each member. Neither is it known whether the tickets will be sent to each nominal member or only to those who have taken active part in the present welcome plans.

**West Point Cadets Invited**  
Yesterday afternoon the Mayor's Committee sent an invitation to Colonel S. E. Tillman, superintendent of the West Point Military Academy, asking that West Point cadets serve as a guard of honor to occupants of the reviewing stand. Should the invitation be accepted much of the space on the Fifty-ninth and 110th streets—the portion to be reserved for holders of "standee" tickets—will be occupied by the West Point men and veterans of the New York Guard regiment here.

Complaints that previous military parades have suffered because of lack of music cannot be made of the forthcoming parade. Brigadier General Ebb and Colonel Wells, representing

## SIGNAL CORPS OF THE 27TH IS HOME



the 1st and 2d brigades of the State Guard, yesterday completed the musical programme. In addition to the eight bands of the division there will be twenty other bands, the latter stationed along the line of march between Washington Square and 110th Street.

Special memorial services for the New York soldiers who fell in action, or who died in the service during the war, are to be held throughout the city on Sunday, April 27. This day has been selected because of the significance of the date and because it is the date of General U. S. Grant's birth.

### 27th to Substitute Vaudeville for Comedy

In accordance with a decision of Major General John F. O'Ryan, commander of the 27th Division, the theatrical troupe of that unit has abandoned its advertised musical comedy and will substitute a vaudeville show. The new musical comedy, "Let's Beat It," will not be produced—at least not by the present organization. The comedy that was written while the theatrical talent of the division actually was under fire is being laid aside reluctantly because of the belief of the commander of the 27th that relatives of the soldiers would prefer to see the vaudeville sketches that were seen by the men "over there."

Consequently, the war-time vaudeville acts will be reproduced as faithfully as possible, costumes, music and military atmosphere. The date and place of the production has not yet been decided.

**Examination of 27th Division To Be Rushed**  
CAMP UPTON, N. Y., March 15.—Fifty medical officers and 100 enlisted men of the 27th Division will come here to assist in the medical examination of the division when it presents itself for discharge.

They will double the capacity of the present camp staff and, working in two eight-hour shifts, the combined force will be capable of passing from 4,000 to 5,000 troops a day through the thorough examination necessary before discharge can get under way.

**Red Cross Worker Is Dead**  
ATHENS, March 14.—Lieutenant Walker, of the American Red Cross, who had been engaged in relief work in Macedonia, is dead here from typhus contracted in the Balkans.

The Greek government has conferred posthumously the Cross of the Order of the Savior.

**Gallant Charge of 105th Saved American Line, Says Capt. Frost**  
CAMP MILLS, New York, March 15.—During the fight at the famous knoll on the Hindenburg line September 29, 1918, the 105th Infantry of O'Ryan's division probably prevented the left flank of the American forces from being turned by the Germans and the loss of gains already made on that section of the line, Captain John W. Frost, operations officer of the 105th, said today.

The doughboys fought like tigers, Captain Frost said. The regiment had been decimated by former casualties, and every officer in the outfit, except Captain Frost and Captain Lewis H. Gibbs, the adjutant, both of whom Colonel James M. Andrews had to hold to help him in conducting the operations, led battalions and companies in the actual fighting.

They included the regiment gas officer, the intelligence officer the officer commanding the headquarters company and others who normally would have been kept at battalion and regimental headquarters. Here is Captain Frost's story:

**Andrews Outlines Tactics**  
"At 4 p. m. on the afternoon of September 28 Colonel Andrews conferred with his battalion and special unit commanders in a huge dugout and detailed every one of us, excepting Captain Gibbs and me, to command platoons and companies. The colonel told us the work cut out for the regiment. Briefly, the programme was this:

"The 107th and 108th were to advance under a barrage the next morning and take certain objectives, after which exploitation troops consisting of Australians and our men were to take over the lines and exploit the break in the Hindenburg defence.

In the upper left hand corner is Major Arthur S. Howe, in command of the 102d Field Battalion. In the center is Sergeant Jack Nealis; upper right, Private Frank B. Thomas, and lower right hand corner, Corporal Kenneth C. McCann. These three are New York boys who won medals for bravery. In the lower center is Miss Mildred Soderquist, who returned with a body of nurses from service at the front.

### U. S. Transport Is Sunk By Mine; Nine Drowned

**Yselhaven's 35 Survivors Are Landed at British North Seaport**

LONDON, March 15.—Nine sailors are reported drowned in the sinking of the American naval transport Yselhaven, which struck a mine at 1:35 o'clock Friday morning, according to a report to Lloyds. The Yselhaven was bound from Baltimore to Copenhagen.

Thirty-five survivors have been landed at Hartlepool by a British steamer.

The Yselhaven measured 3,558 tons and was built in Rotterdam in 1916. She was taken over by the United States Shipping Board after the United States entered the war. She left Baltimore on February 18.

The sinking of the Yselhaven probably occurred in the North Sea, as Hartlepool, where the survivors were taken, is a port on the eastern coast of England.

She would have flanked the American position. "Then came our turn. The battalions of the 105th, immediately realizing the situation, went into action. They took over the line to the north and east of the knoll, and our third battalion and what was left of the first battalion held this position throughout the day, repelling repeated German counterattacks."

"It was in the fighting that Captain Stanley Bulkeley fought for eight hours with a bad wound in his head, and that Captain Walter W. Slayton distinguished himself. Both got the British military cross for their gallantry that day."

**American Line Saved**  
"The position was consolidated and held the next day and night, after which the 105th men were relieved. There is little doubt in my mind that our battalions saved the American line from tremendous casualties and probably from being entirely turned."

"Our men fought with a wonderful spirit. The gallantry of the average American doughboy made the biggest impression of the war on me. They did the impossible every day. It's hard to imagine men advancing on snuff enemy machine gun nests without so much as flanking them. That's what those boys did right through. It was wonderful."

About 2,000 members of the 52d Artillery Brigade went to New York today on liberty passes. About 1,000 visitors came to camp.

The men are still telling about their adventures overseas. According to Private Edward Wilson, of Company H, 106th Infantry, the Jerries never got quite accustomed to the light one pound cannon the American doughboys used against the Boche. Says Wilson: "I captured a Fritz one day and the first thing he asked was to let him see the machine guns that fire 'the big bullets.' The Heinie wouldn't believe me when I told him they were really cannon."

Private Daniel Merritt, of the 105th Machine Gun Battalion, was a runner and his work in keeping communications open between the rear and the front lines was so heroic that he got two citations, one in Belgium and one on the Hindenburg front. But he won't talk about them.

"They didn't amount to anything," he declared. The fellow who really deserved one was George Carr, a buddy of mine, who was killed. We got too near a Boche shell and a big chunk went through his back. He fell right on top of me. I got it in the leg. George died later in hospital. "Or Corporal Baker, sitting over there. He deserved one. He carried Carr back to our line through the damndest barrage I saw all the while I was over there."

## Cerise Arm Bands to Mark Heroic Runners in Parade

'Mid Rain of Missiles During Assault on Hindenburg Line They Carried Orders; Men of 27th Explain Why Few Married French Girls

CAMP MERRITT, N. J., March 14.—The orders directing the operations on the assault of the Hindenburg line on September 29 were conveyed in the height of action from battalion and brigade headquarters to company commanders by members of the Runners' Platoons of the 27th Division. When other means of communication had been closed these heroic runners sped back and forth on their important missions.

The thousands who will pay homage to the members of the 27th Division on March 25 will have no difficulty in singling out the runners. They carry no rifles, and on the right arm of each is a cerise band, concerning which an Australian officer said, after the Hindenburg action: "If I had one of those I'd take it home and frame it."

Each regiment has its platoon of runners attached to the headquarters company, according to Sergeant Archie C. Challis, of the runners of the 108th Infantry.

"The runners travelled in pairs, each man with a copy of the same code message," he said today. "They went by different routes through that staggering barrage on the principle that one of the two might be broken up."

"Military police intercept all who pass from headquarters to the lines except the runners. The brassard guarantees the unchallenged right of way to its wearer. For forty-eight hours the runners swept back and forth in the Hindenburg line fight, suffering losses, but seldom failing to bring through the information. There was no time to sleep or eat for them. The excitement and their remarkable stamina—they are selected for that—held them on their feet."

### Like American Girls Best

Young ladies of New York interested in the young men of the 27th Division might be interested to know the value of their charms in the eyes of these fighters when compared with the charms of the fairest maids of France. This information could be imparted by the announcement that one man of the 7,000 of the 54th Brigade of the division participated in an international marriage.

Sergeant Arnold C. Cuthbert says: "There is no girl in France who can be compared with any girl in the United States. Some have good clothes and good looks, but there is something lacking."

Private Andrew Mochan, Company L, 108th Infantry, says: "I think that one of the main reasons why Frenchmen marry French girls is because they have never seen American girls."

In all the A. E. F. there was only one wireless set carried along with the first wave of infantry on a major attack. This was borne by the signal platoon of the headquarters company of the 107th Infantry. Corporal Dorian O. Romero, of the platoon, who met representatives of similar outfits at the N. C. O. schools in France, de-

clared today that no like feat has ever been accomplished or even claimed.

"Jerry turned on us at St. Souplet," said Corporal Romero, "and we prepared a concerted attack to dislodge him. On October 14 the attack was made. It was decided to carry a wireless set to aid in the maintaining of communications."

"The signal platoon men chosen for this detail lined up at the tape with wet batteries, in wooden cases, strapped to their backs and with others bringing the mast. Of two complete details of fifteen men each engaged in signal work that morning, but five remained for service. Their wireless detail was reorganized twice before the first stand was made."

### Praise Australian Fighters

The Australians are the most fearless, devil-may-care fighters in the world, barring, of course, the Americans. This is the unanimous verdict of the men of the 27th Division.

"They fight as though they are on some kind of hilarious outing," said Supply Sergeant Wheeler, of L Company, today.

"While looking forward toward St. Souplet," he said, "the 'Aussies' passed through a small town near Escofert. The 'Aussies' found a stock of old-fashioned silk hats and cutaway coats. They shined the hats and put them on instead of their helmets while the cutaway coats covered the upper part of their uniforms. It was the funniest spectacle in history to see these big Australians chasing Jerry, their coats flying and their hats on the back of their heads."

"Over the top," according to the men of the 27th Division, is an expression used by authors for titles of books and by after-dinner speakers for dramatic effect. It describes nothing which the men actually do, they agree. Sergeant A. L. Burgess, of Headquarters Company, 107th Regiment, gives this why and wherefore:

"The doughboy climbs over the top very slowly and deliberately. On the night before the attack a detail of men lay a white tape in front of the trenches. If the men jumped over the top and advanced immediately, the lines would be irregular, as the trenches do not run in a straight line. They zigzag, so that a single shell could not wipe out too great a number of men."

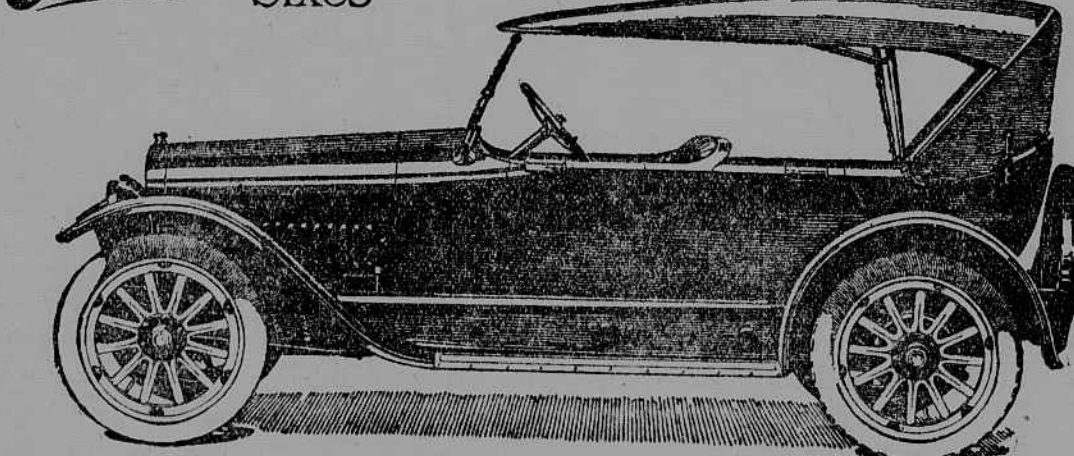
"The men always walk forward. They have a certain distance to go in a certain length of time. On September 29 it was 100 yards in three minutes. This is to prevent the men from running into their own barrage. The story banner is not borne aloft by a stalwart trooper, orators and authors notwithstanding. The regimental flag of the 107th Infantry was kept in a waterproof casing during the entire active career of the outfit."

### Lieut. "Jim" Europe's Band Gives First Concerts To-day

This afternoon at the Manhattan Opera House Lieutenant "Jim" Europe's 369th Infantry jazz band will give its first concert for soldiers and sailors in uniform, who will be admitted free. To-night a concert will be given for the public.

Colonel Hayward, Irving Cobb, Colonel John Wanamaker, Captain Archie Roosevelt and others will be present. The band will start on tour Monday.

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